

1 place, following all the study and the work and the
2 hearings and comments and everything else, it is
3 going to take some action on the part of the State
4 of Kansas and particularly the approval of the
5 governor.

6 Well, I was governor four years. And I
7 want to say just a thought. From what I have read
8 and heard in the newspapers and on the TV and word
9 of mouth, and then here tonight, I must say, if I
10 was governor now, and was confronted with the
11 problem of making an approval or a disapproval, I
12 certainly would have to hear a lot more of means of
13 protection of the public generally, in this county
14 and in this state. Indeed, in the United States.
15 This is not just a local problem. This is a public
16 problem. And it would be a cold day in July before
17 I could approve this project based on what I have
18 heard.

19 I am not saying that the project of a
20 Land of Oz is bad, or not a good idea. Children
21 like it and parents like to take their children to
22 those kinds of places, but I wonder what might
23 happen to this 9,000 acres of property, and I have
24 been all over it. If these promoters -- that's
25 what I call them, that's, I think, a kindly name to

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1 give them, and their attorney is Larry Winn and he
2 is a friend of mine. But if they fail, it's you
3 and I and all of us that are going to pay the bill,
4 and I don't like that. I don't like it and I don't
5 think the public generally does.

6 And I don't think the County -- Johnna
7 Lingle's my friend, too. I don't think the County
8 or the State should pass upon this thing in a -- in
9 a, is it nice to do this or is it politically the
10 thing to do. I think they should determine whether
11 or not it is something that will be good if it can
12 be carried out and then it won't be bad for the
13 public if it fails.

14 I will submit a few more words in writing
15 and I thank you very much.

16 MR. McGUIRE: Thank you, Governor.
17 Anyone else care to say a few words?

18 State your name and address.

19 MR. McKECHNIE: My name is Bill
20 McKechnie. I live at 28000 West 88th Circle in
21 De Soto, Kansas. I would also like to thank the
22 GSA officials and gentlemen and everybody for being
23 here tonight and being a part of this forum.

24 I have no doubt that if the backing is
25 there that this thing is going to go through; it's

1 going to go through and this meeting is not going
2 to make much difference. But I looked at it in the
3 realm of what's in this for me, like a lot of
4 people do. And I decided there was something in it
5 for me. I have an eight-year-old son and an
6 eleven-year-old daughter. I thought they could
7 work there some day. When they're in college, they
8 could come home during the summer, might help them
9 get through college.

10 I don't know if you have been out to
11 Worlds of Fun or been by there. I live in the
12 country right now. It's the gentlemen's country,
13 but it's the country. I didn't move out here to be
14 catty-corner to Worlds of Fun. I didn't move out
15 here to be catty-corner to a World of Oz theme
16 park. There is absolutely no question about that
17 in my mind.

18 I decided there is something in this for
19 me. My kids could work there some day. Until I
20 read about this EPA business, Steve Wharton, who
21 questions whether the time frame of the cleanup,
22 which is a five-year time frame, he questions
23 whether it wouldn't take 15 years. So I asked
24 myself: Do I want my kids out there during the
25 summer working there? Do I want them drinking out

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1 of a drinking fountain out there? Do I want to
2 drink my own drinking water? I've got a really
3 cool creek, Cedar Creek, running down just south of
4 my house. I take walks out there. There is
5 wildlife down there, I get in the water, there is
6 fishing down there. What about the runoff? What
7 about -- I mean, that's been an Army Ammunition
8 Plant since World War II.

9 The EPA cleanup concerns me and, you
10 know, even if that weren't an issue, I don't want
11 to live catty-corner to that. I mean, I moved out
12 here and I will move as far as out in the country
13 as I have to go, but I hope that the World of Oz
14 theme people, or whoever they are -- I know that's
15 not you people, you guys are GSA -- but I hope I
16 don't have to move clear out to Hays or western
17 Kansas or whatever, but if I do, I will. Thank you
18 very much.

19 MR. FOX: My name is Robert Fox. I
20 live just a little bit south of De Soto. I moved
21 out to the country like he did, to be out in the
22 country. First of all, I am going to click my
23 heels three times and say there's no place like
24 home. I want to keep living out here. I want to
25 stay out here. When I go to the top of my stairs,

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1 I look out my window and what do I see? I see the
2 four water towers out there at Sunflower Ammunition
3 Plant. I don't mind seeing those out there. But I
4 do mind seeing a big Ferris wheel, a big roller
5 coaster, hear the noise. I go out there now, what
6 do I hear? I hear the crickets, I hear the frogs,
7 I hear the coyotes. I don't want to hear kids
8 screaming out there, I don't want to hear noise out
9 there. I like my peace and quiet. The World of
10 Oz.

11 I am assuming -- I just got here not too
12 long ago so I don't know who's here. If our county
13 commissioners are here, I wonder who we have. Do
14 we have the tin man, the lion and the scarecrow
15 here also? And Dorothy and Toto out here, too?
16 Well, I don't think so. I hope they don't come
17 here either. I say what's out here? I have been
18 to Disneyland and I have been to Disney World.
19 What do they have to offer? We have a lot to
20 offer, what we have here in Kansas. Well, I've
21 lived here all my life. I'm not going to move from
22 here. I go to visit other places. Like I said,
23 there is no place like home and I want to keep it
24 that way. Thank you.

25 MR. MCGUIRE: Does anybody else care

1 to speak?

2 MR. BURKHARDT: My name is Rex
3 Burkhardt and I am president of the Eudora City
4 Council and president of the Eudora Area Historical
5 Society. I feel that the environmental impact
6 assessment primarily is focused on De Soto and
7 Johnson County. Certainly, traffic increases on
8 K-10 and air quality will also impact Eudora and
9 parts of Douglas County with its close proximity.

10 It took the United States Government 58
11 years, from 1941 to the present, to pollute the
12 Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant, but I have serious
13 doubts concerning the viability of a quick
14 cleanup. I worked for about 20 years at the plant,
15 15 years for Hercules and about five years for
16 various contractors and subcontractors. It will be
17 a major cleanup with major costs and I hope these
18 costs do not fall back on all the taxpayers in the
19 state of Kansas.

20 MR. MCGUIRE: Does anybody else care
21 to speak? (No response.)

22 Okay. For the record, I would like to
23 state that it's 8:28. Everyone who has been
24 invited to speak has spoken and we'll declare this
25 meeting adjourned.

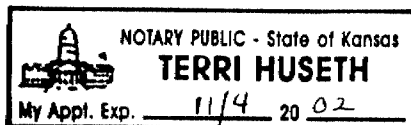
C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Terri L. Huseeth, Certified Shorthand Reporter, of Jay E. Suddreth & Associates, Inc., with offices located at Suite 100, 10104 West 105th Street, in the City of Overland Park, County of Johnson and State of Kansas, do certify that I was personally present at the taking of the proceedings as set forth in the caption sheet hereof; that I then and there took down in shorthand the proceedings had at said time, and that the foregoing is a full, true and correct transcript of such shorthand notes so made at such time and place.

Terri L. Huseeth

TERRI L. HUSETH, CSR

Certified Shorthand Reporter



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PUBLIC HEARING IN REGARDS TO PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

LIST OF SPEAKERS (Please Print)

ADDRESS	
✓ Jim Oyle	UNITED TRIBE OF SHAWNEE INDIANS P.O. BOX 505, DE SOTO, KS 66018
✓ STC	
✓ Dray Cathryn	Resident who paid all for 4.75 acres of land
✓ Gerald Cooper	City of De Soto
✓ Marc Mason	Sierra Club 6125 W 76th Pk, KS 66208
Bill Sheldon	14340 Gardner 66030
✓ C. J. POIRIER	POIRIER LAW OFFICE, P.A. (ENVIRONMENTAL MEDIATOR) 4350 SHAWNEE MISSION PKY FAIRWAY, KS 66205
✓ Rick Ulmer	36895 West 143rd Gardner, KS 66030
✓ Johnna Lingle	JC Comm.
✓ Gary Beers	39530 W 119th Endora KS 66025
✓ Craig Volland	Spectrum Technologists 609 N 72nd St K-C. KS 66112
✓ Claus Wawrzinek	P.O. Box 45542, KCMO 64171 561-7803
✓ Rich Zbinden	13114 West 125th Terrace Overland Park, KS 66213
✓ Nancy Moneymaker	O.P., KS

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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

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